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PATENTS, TRADEMARKS & RELATED INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY MATTERS

June 5, 2003

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GROUP 3600

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sirs:

Here, for filing, is a Response To Office Action, in
In re the Application of Roger P. Willems, Application No.
09/997,934.

Please stamp the enclosed postcard with date of filing,
and return to me.

Very truly yours,

Robert D. Hornbaker

RDH:lml
Enclosure

cc: Phil Stratford - w/encl. by FAX
Roger Willems - w/encl.

3676
#6
Request for
Reconsideration
7/9/03



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of)
Roger P. Willems) Examiner: Mark A. Williams
Serial No.: 09/997,934) Art Unit: 3676
Filed: November 30, 2001)
Title: **SPRUNG SURFACE HANDLE**)

Response To Office Action

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Dear Sir:

This is a response to the 4-page Patent and Trademark Office Action mailed March 11, 2003.

Applicant amends "1,715,243," on page 1 to "2,715,243."

The Examiner rejected all claims 1-30, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Koll U.S. Patent No. 2,715,243, issued August 16, 1955, in view of Willems U.S. Patent No. 5,797,635, issued August 25, 1998, both cited in applicant's Information Disclosure Statement. Significantly, applicant's attorney prepared the Information Disclosure Statement, with knowledge of applicant Willems' above patent, and by using the prohibited hindsight of his invention described, and claimed, in this application. The Examiner has now used applicant's Information Disclosure Statement, and its prohibited hindsight, to combine the Koll and Willems Patents, and reject all of the